



PATENT  
450100-02579

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**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

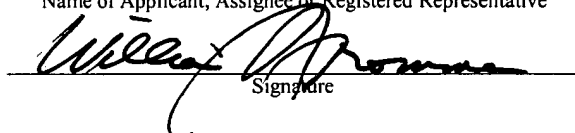
Applicants : Hirokazu NAGASAWA et al. Notice of Allowance  
Dated: 05/04/2004  
Serial No. : 09/604,632 Confirmation No. 3984  
For : SIGNAL INPUT AND OUTPUT APPARATUS THAT  
DISCRIMINATES BETWEEN PLURALITY OF  
DIFFERENT DEVICES EACH ISSUING UNIQUE  
CONTROL SIGNALS SUBSTANTIALLY  
SIMULTANEOUSLY THROUGH SINGLE  
TRANSMISSION PATH  
Filed : June 27, 2000  
Examiner : Tammara R. PEYTON  
Art Unit : 2182

745 Fifth Avenue  
New York, New York 10151

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with  
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William S. Frommer, Reg. No. 25,506

\_\_\_\_\_  
Name of Applicant, Assignee or Registered Representative

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature

June 7, 2004

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Date of Signature

**RESPONSE TO EXAMINER'S STATEMENT OF REASONS FOR ALLOWANCE**

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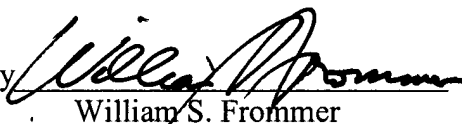
Sir:

This is in response to the Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance, which  
accompanied the Notice of Allowance mailed May 4, 2004. To the extent the Examiner's

Statement of Reasons for Allowance states, implies or is construed to mean that the claims are allowable over the prior art of record because the Examiner believes the claims should be interpreted to include one or more features or limitations not recited therein, Applicants' attorney disagrees with such an interpretation. Moreover, it is Applicants' contention that there is no particular limitation in the allowed claims that is more critical than any other. The issuance of the Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance should not be construed as a surrender by Applicants of any subject matter. It is the intent of Applicants, by their attorney, to construe the allowed claims so as to cover the invention disclosed in the instant application and all equivalents to which the claimed invention is entitled.

Respectfully submitted,

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Attorneys for Applicants

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